

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1-2. (canceled).

3. (previously presented): A coating containing the strain of microorganism according to Claim 11.

4. (canceled).

5. (previously presented): A coating film containing the strain of microorganism according to Claim 11.

6-10. (canceled).

11. (previously presented): A strain of microorganism belonging to the genus *Alteromonas* growing in seawater, not growing in 1% NaCl, and having the ability to produce a biojelly insoluble in seawater, which is FERM BP-7623.

12. (new): A method of preventing attachment of macroscopic aquatic life to an underwater structure

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which comprises coating the surface of said underwater structure with the coating according to Claim 3.

13. (new): A method of preventing attachment of macroscopic aquatic life to an underwater structure

which comprises forming the coating film according to Claim 5 on the surface of said underwater structure.